FEB 2 6 2004

Thereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Attorney Docket No.: 020375-006200US

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on Feb 23, 2004

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

ву: Opmie Sorm

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Bruce A. Bennett et al.

Application No.: 10/072,379

Filed: February 5, 2002

For: CARD DESTRUCTION SYSTEMS

AND METHODS

Customer No.: 20350

Confirmation No. 2556

Examiner:

Diane I. Lee

Technology Center/Art Unit: 2876

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed February 9, 2004. In the Office Action, the only rejection was a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection over claims 1-22 of copending application number 10/222,132. A response to an Office Action for copending application number 10/222,132 is being filed concurrently herewith. In the Response to the Office Action for application number 10/222,132 is an appropriate terminal disclaimer. Hence, the provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection is rendered moot.

Appl. No. 10/072,379 Amdt. dated February 23, 2004 Reply to Office Action of February 9, 2004

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 303-571-4000.

Respectfully submitted,

Dann J. Gibby Reg. No. 38,464

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor San Francisco, California 94111-3834

Tel: (303) 571-4000 Fax: (303) 571-4321

DJG/cl 60147422 v1 The Image

s. 5

AF 2876

| | | Application Number | | 10/072,379 | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) | | | Filing Date | | February 5, 2002 | |
| | | | First Named Inventor | | Bennett, Bruce A. | |
| | | | Art Unit | | 2876 | |
| | | | Examiner Name | | Diane I. Lee | |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission | | Attorney Docket Number | | 020375-006200US | | |
| ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply) | | | | | | |
| Fee Transmittal Form | ☐ Drawin | g(s) | | After A | Allowance Communication to Group | |
| Fee Attached | Licens | ing-related Papers | | Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences | | |
| ☐ Petition | | | 1 | | Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) | |
| I I Atter Final | | | n to Convert to a onal Application | | Proprietary Information | |
| Affidavits/declaration(s) | | | ey, Revocation espondence Address | Status | s Letter | |
| Extension of Time Request | | | nal Disclaimer | | Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): | |
| Express Abandonment Request | | | est for Refund umber of CD(s) | | Return Postcard | |
| Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) Remai | | The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees to Deposit Account 20-1430. | | | | |
| Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application | | | | | | |
| Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | | | | | | |
| SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT | | | | | | |
| Firm Townsend and T or Darin J. Gibby | wnsend and Crew LLP Reg. No. 38,464 | | | | | |
| Signature | | | | | | |
| Date February 23, 2004 | | | | | | |
| CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING | | | | | | |
| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below. | | | | | | |
| Typed or printed name Connie Lars | | | | | | |
| Signature Council La | | | _ | Date | February 23, 2004 | |